

Kershaw 110

The Kershaw company made a variety of photographic and optical equipment including cameras, cinema projectors, slide/film strip projectors and binoculars.

Mid Fifties Aperture Series (1954-1957)

The Kershaw 110 is a basic, but well-made, folding camera made by G B Kershaw of Leeds in England, and introduced in 1954. The styling brings to mind the Agfa Isolette & the Kodak 66. The images were 6x6cm on 120 roll film. It had a simple shutter, I & B with flash synch, and a fixed-focus lens with a choice of two apertures, f/11 & f/16. It takes 12 pictures on 120 roll film. In 1955 it cost £5 19s. 10d. including purchase tax.

Note: From the inside of the back cover on the camera -

"G.B.KERSHAW | A PRODUCT OF BRITISH OPTICAL & PRECISION ENGINEERS LTD | USE ONLY 120 FILM" and *"WE RECOMMEND ILFORD NO. 120 FILMS"*

The Kershaw 630 was a 120 film folding camera built from around 1955 by Kershaw-Sohoin Leeds, UK. The 630 was an enhanced version of the Kershaw 110, adding a larger, focusing lens, iris and a three speed shutter with flash sync. The body itself had a few extras including fold out spool holders, a red window cover, cable release socket and a shutter release on the edge of the folding door. It was similar to the Kershaw 450 (which had a larger aperture lens). Both cameras lens housing are quaintly marked "German Shutter".

The Kershaw 450 is similar to the 110 but with a better lens (Etar f/4.5) in a Velio 5-speed shutter. It was introduced in about 1956, when it cost £12 19s. 4d.

Photos of Kershaw models 110, 450, 630 -

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/10456228@N00/sets/72157623680701425/detail/>

Post War Kershaw's Bird Series (1946-1952)

Previously, Kershaw's post-war cameras were named after birds including the Curlew, the Peregrine, the Raven and the Penguin because company directors were avid bird watchers.

Kershaw Patent Reflex (c1905-1939)

Attempts had been made to produce a *single-lens reflex* (SLR) camera since the 1860s, but the Anschütz camera (1889) and Kershaw patent of 1904 gave an impetus to the design that was widely adopted and remained popular until 1939.

The Kershaw Patent Reflex was produced in several models from about 1905 to 1939. It was a large format single lens reflex with a revolving back. This camera was also marketed as the Soho Reflex Camera. Various models included tropical wood or black leather finish with film sizes including 2 ¼ x 3 ¼", 3 ¼ x 4 ¼", and 4 x 5".

Brand: Kershaw
 Model: 110
 Country of manufacture: Great Britain
 Start of construction: Circa 1950
 End of construction: 0
 Rarity: Uncommon
 McKeown page: 458 (12th edition)
 Camera Type: Folding

Known addresses
 Brand:

Film / sheet / film-plane

Film Type: **120**
 Format views (en): 6 x 6 cm
 Status: Wheel / Key
 Rewind: No

Maximum Number of views: 12
 Format views (eng):
 Position Status: On the cover
 Position of the rewind: No

Rewind option:

Exposure

Cell:
 Exposure Mode:
 IL:

Position of the cell:
 Metering Mode:
 Exposure Lock:

Shutter

Brand Shutter
 Shutter Type: Central
 Shutter Speed: Instant, B (approx. 1/40)
 Taken trigger:

Model Shutter
 Material Shutter: Metal strips
 Armament:
 Security against double-exposure:
 Signal Delay:

Timer:

Timer duration:

Objective

Lens type of origin: Standard
 Brand Objective:
 Lens Mount:
 Optical formula:
 Max Aperture: 11
 Minimum distance of focus (in cm):
 Fashion Focus: Fixed focus
 Storing Focus:

Lens mount: Fixed
 Model of the lens:
 Diaphragm:
 Focal origin:
 Minimum Aperture: 16
 Minimum distance of focus (in feet):
 Measurement mode for the development:

Frame counter

Frame counter: Film back through red window

Reset the frame counter:

Bellows

Bellows extension:	no	Color of the bellows:	Black
Shape of the bellows:	Conical	Corners of the bellows:	Cut corners
Material of the bellows:	Reinforced paper	Number of edges of the bellows:	
Position of the bellows:		Part of the bellows:	
Attachment of the bellows:	Bellows fixed	Maximum extension:	
Intermediate support of the bellows:	No	Horizontal shift:	
Extension Min:		Rocking Horizontal	
Vertical shift:			
Toggle vertical:			
Viewfinder (s)			
Number of sights:	1	Second type of viewfinder:	
Viewfinder Type:	Fixed internal	Parallax:	
Viewfinder Frame:		Color range image:	
Form of the telemetric image:		Art display in the viewfinder:	
Image type rangefinder:		Recall of exposure parameters and automation:	
Recall of exposure parameters:		Frame counter:	
Flash charging indicator:			
Witnessed over and under-exposure:			
Claw			
Accessory Shoe:	Fixed	Position of the accessory shoe:	On the top
Parallax correction of the accessory shoe:	No	Accessory shoe with flash contact:	
Number of shoe accessories:	1		
Flash			
Flash sync:	X	Flash sync speed:	all
Number of contacts:	2	Type of flash:	
Flash:	No	NG:	
Flash options:		Red-eye reduction mode:	
Red eye reduction:			



Company Background:

Introduction

Kershaw made a wide range of photographic and optical equipment, including professional cinema projectors, slide/film strip projectors and binoculars. They also made cameras. In the early years of the 20th century, these were often sold by other companies e.g. Marion, Ross. In 1947 the Kershaw family lost control of the company when they sold it to British Optical and Precision Engineers (a subsidiary of the Rank Organization).

Abram Kershaw established his firm in 1888 and by 1898 was making camera parts for the trade manufacturers. During the early 1900's, the photographic side of the business expanded. Field cameras, studio cameras and tripods were being made. From 1905, the Kershaw company started in earnest to produce the Soho Reflex, based on Abram Kershaw's patent of 1904. These were being made for Marion and Company, London Stereoscopic Company, Ross, Beck & Fallowfield who sold them under their own names. Kershaw also produced cameras for other manufacturers.

Kershaw joined APM in 1921 and became the dominant partner of Soho Ltd. In 1929. In both companies, Kershaw produced most of the cameras and equipment marketed under APeM and Soho names. Concurrently, Kershaw pursued it's own projects, notably the production of cine equipment through it's associated company of Kalee Ltd. From 1947 to c1954, the company traded under the name of Kershaw-Soho (Sales) Ltd. London, then as G. B. Equipments Limited and the brand name of the cameras became "G. B. Kershaw". From 1956, the firm was fully integrated into Rank Precision Industries Ltd. Kershaw produced cameras until the late 1950's when production ceased because the Rank Organization, which had acquired Kershaw in 1947, wished to direct production to other products.

Company Merger Information

Kershaw-Soho (Sales) Ltd. was a camera maker based in Leeds. It was separated from APeM in 1928 and became part of the J. Arthur Rank Organization. The Soho part of the name came from absorbing the Soho company, and some of the Kershaw cameras were continuations or developments of Soho designs- such as the Eight-20 Penguin which was based on the Soho Myna. Kershaw-Soho named most of its cameras after birds. Its postwar cameras were designed for roll film of type 120. It made cameras of that type for other companies, for example Ilford.

APM, Soho, British Optical and Precision Engineers Ltd a subsidiary of Rank, Ilford

Company Name:

Soho Ltd 1929 - c.1943

Amalgamated Photographic Materials Ltd 1921 – 1929

Company Address:

Colham Mill Rd. West Drayton. Middx 1941 - c.1943

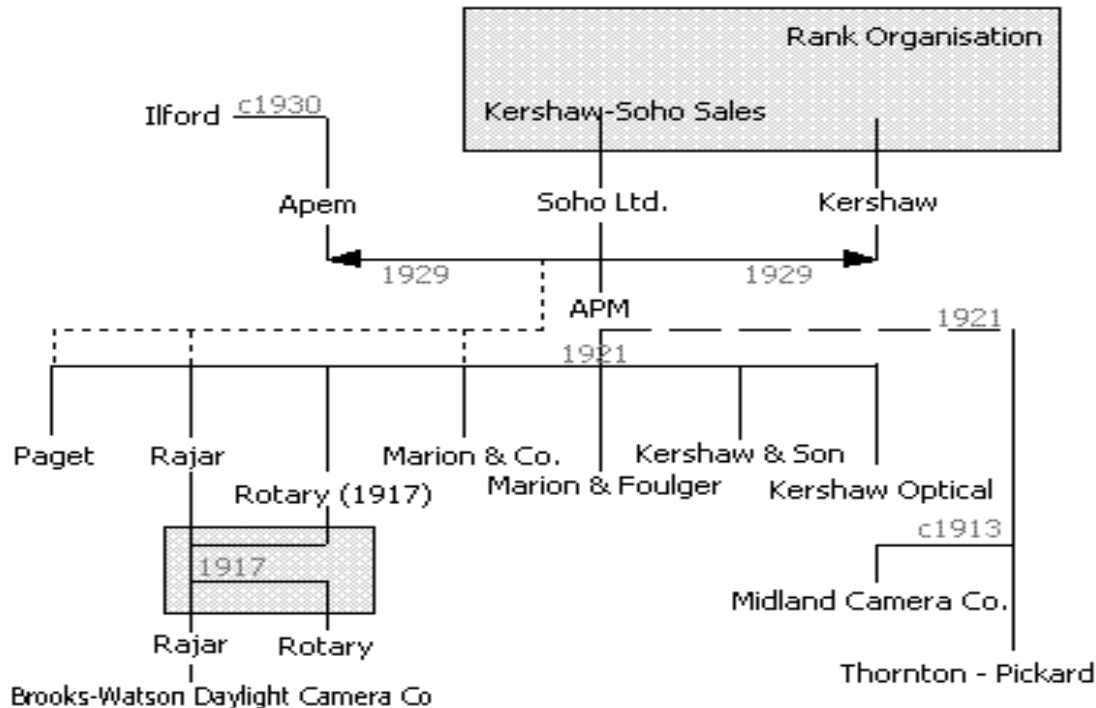
Lymington Hants

c.1941 -

Registered office

3 Soho Square. London. W1

1921 – 1941



A.P.M. was formed in 1921 by the merger of Rotary Photographic Co. (1917) Ltd, Paget Prize Plates Co. Ltd, Rajar Ltd, Marion & Co. Ltd, Marion & Foulger Ltd, A. Kershaw & Son Ltd and Kershaw Optical Co. Ltd. Later in 1921 they became leading shareholders in Thornton-Pickard Manufacturing Co.

On the 1st February 1929 the sensitive materials side of the company was re-formed as APEM Ltd, this was formed by the Marion, Paget and Rajar divisions. Shortly afterward APEM was incorporated into the Ilford group.

A.P.M. was renamed Soho Ltd, as the sales division for the manufacturing company of A. Kershaw & Son.

By 1942 Soho Ltd. was listed as a branch of A Kershaw & Son. Following the war the Soho name re-emerged as Kershaw-Soho (Sales) Ltd. Around 1947 Kershaw-Soho was part of J. Arthur Rank Organization (through British Optical and Precision Engineers Ltd. a subsidiary of Rank).

The Rajar factory was built in 1903, it is illustrated in the BJA of 1907 and 1910. Rotary Photographic Co. was put up for auction as an enemy firm in July 1917 but was not then sold.

In the 1922 BJA the directors are shown as: A.E. Parke (Rajar, Rotary and Wiggins Teape, chairman); Abraham Kershaw (Kershaw and Son, Kershaw Optical); Cecil Kershaw (Kershaw and Son, Kershaw Optical); T.L. Parke (Rajar, Rotary and Wiggins Teape); A.G. Pickard (T-P); H.C. Rich (Marion and Foulger); F.G. Thomas (Marion); G.Sidney Whitfield (Paget); L.D. Whitfield (Paget); C.F.S. Rothwell

(b. 1871 d. 1935) (Rajar and Rotary, joint MD); Gerald M. Bishop (Marion, joint MD). An earlier list does not include A.G. Pickard.

References:

BJA 1907, p. 1436.; BJA 1910, p. 1080, Rajar illustrations.; BJA 1918, p. 262.; BJA 1922, pp. 59, 82, 313.; BJA 1929, p.47.; BJA 1930, p. 47.; BJA 1936, p. 216.; BJA 1943, p. 23.; BJA 1944, p. 23.

Patents:

10798 1891 Roller-blind shutter. BP 5014/1885 is related.

Kershaw, J. Kershaw Patent

22698 1904 Reflex cameras, mirror movement and shutters.

Kershaw, A. Stereo Tropical Reflex, Stereo Tropical Soho, Improved Artist Reflex, Soho Reflex, Dainty Soho Reflex

324831 1929 Roll-film camera. Used in the Rajar 6.

Amalgamated Photographic Manufacturers Ltd.; Kershaw, C. Rajar No. 6

330438 1929 Use of a stencil to cut bellows.

Amalgamated Photographic Manufacturers Ltd.; Kershaw, N. Cadet Model B

Manuals:

<http://www.butkus.org/chinon/gb-kershaw/gb-kershaw-110/gb-kershaw-110.htm>

http://www.cameramanuals.org/pdf_files/gb-kershaw-110.pdf

References:

Kershaw information - McKeown's Price Guide to Antique & Classic Cameras – pp458, pp897.

Kershaw 110 Specs - http://www.collection-appareils.fr/kershaw/html/kershaw_110.php

Kershaw 110, 450 & 630 - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/10456228@N00/sets/72157623680701425/detail/>

Kershaw Single Lens Reflex - <http://www.answers.com/topic/camera-development#ixzz1AmtDUqix>

Soho Single Lens Reflex - http://shutterbug.com/equipmentreviews/classic_historical/0305classic/

Rank Organization - <http://www.scripophily.net/raorlilo19.html>

Rank, APM, Soho, Ilford - <http://www.earlyphotography.co.uk/site/companies.html>

Patents - http://www.earlyphotography.co.uk/site/BP_3.html